GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:272
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Import of Wheat
Venugopal Dr. Ponnusamy

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is not considering to import wheat on Government account;
(b) whether the country has enough wheat to meet the requirement under the Public Distribution System;
(c) whether it is true that as on December 1, 2016 Food Corporation of India had 27.55 million tonne of foodgrains out of which the quantum of wheat was 16.4 million tonne and rice was 11 million tonne; and
(d) whether the Government is encouraging import of wheat by private players by scrapping import duty on wheat and if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
(a): Yes Madam, there is no proposal to import wheat on Government Account.
(b): Stock of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1st July, 2017 was 32.275 million tonne against stock norms of 27.58 million tonne as on 1st July which is adequate to meet the requirement under Public Distribution System.
(c): The stock of foodgrains as on 1st December, 2016 was 27.555 million tonne of which the quantum of wheat was 16.496 million tonne and rice was 11.059 million tonne.
(d): The Import duty on wheat has been imposed @ 10% vide notification dated 28th March, 2017.
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